Functioning of Indian Banks abroad

841. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Subrato Chakrabarty Manager (International Division) of Bank of Baroda, conducted an indepth study of Indian Banks in the U.K. and Europe; and

(b) if so, what are his main findings about the functioning of Indian banks abroad?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Bank of Baroda has reported that its Manager, International Division, is conducting a study on the changing regulatory environment for Indian banks operating in the United Kingdom and Europe under the Lord Aldington Banking Research Fellowship awarded to him by the Indian Institute of Bankers. The findings of the study will be known when he submits his report on his return to India in May, 1991.

Import of rough diamonds from Austria

842. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whethtr Government are importing rough diamonds from Austria;

(b) if so, since when and the total quantum of rough diamonds imported from Austria during 1990-91 till now; and

(c) what are the other fields in which Indo-Austrian collaboration has been established?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b) A small quantity of rough diamonds had been imported from Austria during 1985-86 and 1986-87. There has been no import of rough diamonds in subsequent years and during 1990-91 (upto September, 1990).

(c) There are about 150 Indo-Austrian Joint Ventures in various fields like steel making, melamine production, ball bearings, welding generators, steam turbines, plastic moulding machines, by-metal bearings, alloy iron-steel and alloy casting etc.

Stock exchanges in the country

843. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Stock Exchanges operating in the country at present, alongwith their location;

(b) the reserves position of each of those Stock Exchanges as on 31st October, 1990;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to make some reforms in the working of those Stock Exchanges; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taktn in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The number and location of recognised Stock Exchanges where trading in securities is being carried out is given in Statement.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Reforms in the working of Stock Exchanges are made from time to time. Government have constituted the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on 12th April, 1988 for, *inter-alia*, the development and regulation of securities market and investor protection.

Statement

The number and location of recognised Stock Exchanges where trading in securities is taking place

1. Bombay
2. Ahmedabad
3. Calcutta

4 Madras
5 New Delhi
6 Hyderabad
7 Indore
8 Bangalore
9 Cochin
10 Kanpur
11 Pune
12 Ludhiana
13 Guwahati
14. Mangalore
15 Patna
16 Jaipur
17. Vadodara
18 Bhubaneswar*

*The Exchange has informed that trading will commence from 2nd January, 1991.

ASSOCHAM's suggestion for setting up of the Bureau of Industrial and Financial Re-construction for small scale sector

@844. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI
DR RATNAKAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested setting up of a body similar to the Bureau of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction dealing exclusively with sickness in small-scale sector which has reached an all time-high both in terms of number of units as well as the outstanding amount;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the small scale industry has welcomed the new industrial policy; and

(d) whether Government have accepted the suggestion made in this regard?

@Previously Unstarred Question No 508 transferred from 1-1-1991.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a), (b) and (d) No suggestion has been received from ASSOCHAM for setting up of a body similar to the BIFR to deal exclusively with sickness in the small scale sector.

(c) Ministry of Industry has informed that ASSOCHAM have welcomed the new industrial policy in respect of small scale sector

Opening of S.B.I. branch at Anara in Purlia District

845. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether respresentations have been received for the opening of a branch of State Bank of India at Anara in Purulia District of West Bengal,

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon and by when it is likely to be opened,

(c) whether it is a fact that transactions like drawing of pay, pension, making out of drafts, collection of crossed cheques, issuing of traveller's and gift cheques, money transfers, locker facilities etc are not done by the Mallabhum Gramin Bank functioning at Anara;

(d) whether it is also a fact that retired Government employees, serving employees, businessmen etc. are handicapped due to the absence of above mentioned transactions at the Gramin Bank, Anara; and

(e) whether till such time SBI branch is opened at Anara, the Gramin Bank, Anara is proposed to be advised to undertake the above transactions in public interest?